

CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT

Manager
Code Enforcement Officer
Code Enforcement Officer

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Mission

The mission of the Code Enforcement Department is to assure compliance with city housing and zoning ordinances in order to protect the health and safety of the community, to protect the environment, to maintain property values and to promote an aesthetically pleasing environment.

Highlights of Fiscal Year 2007

During the period July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007 the department had the following enforcement activity:

- Housing – Approximately 3245 inspections were conducted with 2178 warnings/ violations being issued.
- Zoning/Building/Site Plan – More than 518 violations were issued. Of these 518, four required prosecution.

Activities Directly Related to Goals

- Increase zoning and site plan enforcement responsibilities of Code Enforcement Officers. Code Enforcement Officers continue to:
 - Investigate illegal used car sales along Main Street
 - Address alleged illegal apartments and prohibited signage
- Endeavor to be as proactive and efficient as possible in investigating and addressing code enforcement issues.
 - The Code Enforcement Department continues to conduct drive-by inspections for zoning violations. If a building starts to look dilapidated, an inspection for housing code violations is scheduled.
- Continue to work with other departments and agencies to coordinate enforcement actions and to create innovative resolutions whenever necessary (Environmental Health, Police, Fire, Assessing and Public Works).
 - Code Enforcement worked with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services in coordinating Wetland and Wetland Buffer enforcement actions on the local level.
 - The Department provided technical support to the City's Legal Department regarding outstanding litigation.
 - One Code Enforcement Officer continued to participate in the Code Team Detail with Environmental Health and the Police Department on Fridays for most of FY07. However, since the Police Officer that was assigned full time for community policing was reassigned, we no longer have this resource to assist with safety concerns, serving District Court Summonses, etc.

- The Code Enforcement Department also continues to work with Community Services when a building may be condemned and ordered vacated so that if people may be homeless as a result of the condemnation, appropriate resources will be made available if necessary.
- The Department also works with the Solid Waste and Assessing Departments to resolve zoning and building issues



Kitchen with Trash



Dilapidated Building



Bad Wiring

- Increase public awareness regarding zoning, housing and building code restrictions through the media, public information brochures, neighborhood meetings and personal contact.
 - Code Enforcement currently participates in the Tree and Ledge Streets Community Revitalization Partnership Program. This is a cooperative effort between Urban Programs, the Police Department and the general community that seeks to revitalize this area through increasing economic opportunities, expanding home ownership and reducing crime through cooperative, coordinated services from both the public and private sectors.
 - Code Enforcement also participates with the French Hill Crime Watch group and addresses housing and zoning issues brought to our attention by the group.
 - The Code Enforcement Department continues to increase public awareness regarding housing and zoning ordinances by distributing educational brochures on Housing Code Enforcement, Nashua's Sign Laws, Land Use Restrictions in Residential Zones and Code Enforcement Services. In addition, an appropriate brochure is sent out with each Notice of Violation.
 - Code Enforcement attends neighborhood meetings, gives informational presentations and distributes educational material after working hours whenever requested.
- Continue to work with Urban Programs and social service agencies to help solve housing code problems.
 - The Department continues to refer persons in need of financial resources in order to fix up their properties to the Urban Programs Department, Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Nashua and Greater Nashua Habitat for Humanity. The Department also continues to refer persons who need other assistance to the appropriate social service agency.